



Susan Ann Harmon

July 24, 1947 - July 7, 2020

Susan Ann Hamon passed away under hospice care in Rancho Mirage, California on Tuesday, July 7, 2020 after suffering from pancreatic cancer for over 6 years. She resided in Palm Desert, CA with her long time companion, Earl Hecksher who survives her. Susan's surviving family includes her brother John, his wife Clara, who reside in Shelton Ct, and her two nieces, Anna and Gail, who reside in Maplewood and Jersey City NJ. with their husbands, Michael Maxwell and Shawn Dollinger. She was particularly devoted to her grand nieces – Grace and Rose Maxwell . She was preceded in death by her parents – Al and Jean Harmon of Elyria, Ohio and by her sister, Deborah, in Bay Village, Ohio. Susan was born in Cleveland Ohio on July 24, 1947. She graduated from Elyria High School in 1965 and from Wittenberg University in 1970 with a degree in English Literature. She settled in the Bay Area, California as a data base consultant. In 1990 She published a book on the uses of DataEase, an early Relational Database that preceded Microsoft's Access. In 1996, she moved to Palm Desert to be with

Earl.

Susan had many lifetime friends from as far back as high school. Susan loved dogs, who were her constant companions. She loved the outdoors: She was an avid mountain biker; a cyclist participating in many cycling events; she loved hiking. She was particularly skilled at photographing wild birds, the results of which appeared on her web site and which she shared with family and friends through post cards and gifts at holiday times.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to

Animals: secure.aspca.org/donate.

Tribute Wall



“ *Susan Ann Harmon*

October 05, 2023 at 09:38 PM



“ *I know her through Terravista. We worked many times. She was very smart and very friendly. I am so sorry! God bless her. Sassan*

Sassan Dowlatshahi - May 17, 2022 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ Susan moved onto my street when we were in the fifth grade and we were best friends immediately and forever more. We had so many good times together - We saved our allowances one summer and her mom, Jean, took us to a stables where we rented horses, perhaps 3 times -we loved horses! - One year we watched American Bandstand at her house every day after school and dreamed of being a cool teen dancing on the show. - One summer Jean would buy us ice cream Drumsticks off the ice cream truck that came around. - I'll never forget the first winter Susan lived here, walking to school one day, she gave me a scene by scene narrative of an episode of a very popular TV Western (possibly Bonanza?). You know how boring it is to have to listen to someone telling you a movie or TV show? Susan was a talker and could go into extreme detail and, yes I was bored, but I will never forget when she acted out the climax of the show - to this day I remember her expression and the twinkle in her eyes as she reincarnated the main character! - Of course we loved swimming, more playing, in her back yard pool all summer. - Car pooling (our moms driving us, including Jan Johnson) to junior high and high school. - Sneaking out to meet up with the Catholic High boys in our teen summers. - High school dances - College break get togethers - We had some wonderful visits in CA (at her house with Earl) and here in Wilmington NC (my house with Mike). - One time a few years ago before she was diagnosed, we were walking in my neighborhood and were unfortunately accosted by my neighbor, who we assume has some kind of paranoia, and Susan became a pit bull, ferociously defending my character! Susan has been a wonderful life long friend for whom there can never be a replacement. She will always be with me in my heart. And I'm out of space and haven't even gotten to high school. Miss her already!

Susanne Werner - July 23, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ I was blessed to meet Susan at Cap Homme in Palm Desert, walking our dogs and sharing conversations and getting to know each other. She always had a treat for every dog and knew them all by name. I was fascinated by her photography and we used to talk about that a lot. She agreed to let me use her photos for inspiration in my paintings, and I've made several since the beginning of this year. Also, every day I look at the calendar of birds that she made this year. She was always encouraging and fun to be around, even from a far distance! The last time I saw her before we left the Desert in March, she had spotted a hawk and was transfixed, watching it from where she stood... She had an eye, an appreciation for beauty and a kindness rare in the world. I'm thankful and grateful for knowing her, and I send my deepest sympathies to all who now are missing her. May she rest in peace now, and I know her spirit will live forever.

Kathy Madison - July 19, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ I was lucky to get to know Susan as part of our morning dog walking group. I first met her when she was walking with Louie and then later when she would walk with Emma. Often she would have her camera and would take pictures of birds while we walked. I have her most recent bird calendar displayed in my home. One of my favorite memories is the special care she would show our dog Greg, making sure he would get a treat even if he was hiding in the back of the pack. She was so delighted that he would come to her, and no one else, when she called his name. The special care she showed was just typical of her kind and giving spirit. We will miss her. Rest in Peace Susan.

Lynn Woodley - July 17, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ I am so sorry to hear of the loss of Susan. We will forever be connected with her adoption of my rescue dog "Emma" from Thailand. I find comfort knowing that Emma brought you joy, love, laughter, happiness, craziness and comfort in your years together. My you spirit soar Susan - you will be missed.

Joy Huss - July 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Loved you Susan! Never forget the turkey chili for the bike club parties! I will never forget you!

Joyce Baker - July 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Susan's life long friendships stretched back well before her high school years. The Harmon and Engel families became friends while neighbors in Cleveland Heights before their move to Elyria. We would make the trek to Elyria to continue the bonding and enjoy their pool every July Fourth. I always viewed Susan as another sister. She will be sorely missed by many.

Dan Engel - July 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Susan Harmon. She was such a gentle soul. I recall her Jane Fonda good looks, her kind words, and her genuine empathy from conversations going back over 40 years ago. Rest In Peace Susan. Much Love and many prayers to you Earl.

Chuck Chokenea - July 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM